



Rita Louise Petrarca

April 19, 2020

Rita Louise (Hames) Petrarca, 88, a long-time resident of Cranston before relocating to Coventry, died on Sunday April 19, 2020. She was the wife of the late Fred Petrarca. Born in Providence, she was the daughter of the late Martin J. and Florence M. (Mulvey) Hames.

Rita was a graduate of St. Xavier High School in Providence and worked for the State of RI, Almacs Super Market and retired from Harvey & Otis, Inc. She also established and operated Big Fred's Fruit and Garden Center in Cranston with her husband and children. Her loving and witty approach to her life could be felt by those around her. She enjoyed knitting, her pets and watching the Patriots win several championships.

Rita was predeceased by her daughter Cheryl A. Petrarca and is survived by her children Fred A. Petrarca and his wife Sanghi, Gayle S. Amaral, Paul D. Petrarca and his wife Wendy, Steven C. Petrarca and grandchildren Andrew, Freddy, Jayvon, Cheri, Victor, Danny and great granddaughter Ashley.

She was also predeceased by her brothers Frank M. Hames, William J. Hames, and sisters Catherine M. McWeeny and Marie Lavoie.

Due to current health and safety regulations, services will be private. Calling Hours are respectfully omitted.

Tribute Wall

CP

“ *Cheryl Petrarca lit a candle in memory of Rita Louise Petrarca*



Cheryl Petrarca - April 14, 2023 at 11:55 PM

CP

I will always love you grandma. I loved just walking in as a kid at any holiday and you be cooking. The house would always smell amazing and be full of hugs.

Cheryl Petrarca - April 14, 2023 at 11:58 PM

MD

“ *Dear Petrarca Family,
Deepest condolences to your family for the loss of your mother/grandmother. Our prayers go out to you for your loss.
Mike and Maureen DiRaimo*

Michael DiRaimo - April 30, 2020 at 09:21 AM

CW

“ *Gayle, Andrew and your family,
I loved your Mother! She was kind, easy to talk to and had a great sense of humor. I loved talking to her. Very wise women. So sad that you lost a beautiful soul.
She is in God's arms now. God bless you and yours.*

*Love,
Cathy*

Catherine Whitford - April 29, 2020 at 12:40 PM

MA

“ *Gayle and Andrew, I am so sorry to hear about your Mom/Grandmother. She was so kind, compassionate and caring and always welcomed me and my children with open arms. Your Mom always mad me laugh and I can't help but smile every time I think of her. We are all better for knowing her. Please know that you both and Fred and Steven are in my thoughts and prayers. Love, Maire*

maire - April 28, 2020 at 08:11 PM

MD

“ *Dear Stephen and family:
So saddened to read of your loss of your Mom! I have great memories of your dad and Mom from the Fruit and vegetable business! Your Mom had a great wit, and always made me laugh. Please know,I will have you and your family in my prayers, during this sad time of loss.*

Mrs. Anne Daley - April 28, 2020 at 07:32 PM

BB

“ *Steve and Petrarca Family:*

Our deepest sympathies, thoughts and prayers. Fond memories of 40 Monument Ave.

Love,

Bill Butler and Maria Browne

Bill Butler - April 28, 2020 at 11:00 AM

JB

“ *To The Petrarca Family,
Please accept our deepest condolences to each of you. She was a loving and caring Mom and Grandma that will be missed. She was a good friend for many years. We will pray for her.*
Jerry and Tom Bessette

Jerry and Tom Bessette - April 27, 2020 at 01:51 PM

LD

Fred, Gayle, Paul, Steven and Families, my deepest condolences to you all. It saddens me to hear of this news especially during this time to not be able to celebrate her. She was definitely one of kind and I have very fond memories of her and all of you throughout my entire life. Mom will be devastated to hear of her passing also. I'm glad they have been able to stay connected even recently. So sorry for your loss and my prayers and thoughts are with you all. ❤️

Lynn DiRaimo - April 27, 2020 at 05:26 PM

KG

*Gayle, Fred, Paul, Steve, Andrew and Family,
I am so sorry to hear of Rita's passing. She was a strong woman, a wonderful mother and grandmother. My thoughts and prayers are with all of you at this time.
My deepest condolences,
Kris (Bessette) Garofalo*

Kris (Bessette) Garofalo - April 27, 2020 at 07:12 PM

KT

*To The Petrarca Family,
I am very sorry to hear about your Mom and Grandmother. She was a great lady and I am glad I got to sample some of her wonderful cooking over the years. My thoughts are with you during this tough time.*
Karen Bessette Turnbull

Karen Bessette Turnbull - April 28, 2020 at 10:49 AM

JW

Dear Steve and Family,

I was so sorry to hear of your loss. Please know you are in my thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

*Love,
Jane Butler Wallace*

Jane Wallace - April 28, 2020 at 11:59 AM